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Monday, August 7, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

AARON CARTER COMES OUT

The troubled former teen star opens up about his sexuality. 18

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While Eagles fans relish watching the team practice up close, Jordan Matthews speaks out and Jim Schwartz challenges cornerbacks. 25

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KRISTIN TOUSSAINT, REPORTER

Amanda Knox is speaking out about another case she says was improperly handled. In an op-ed in the Los Angeles Times, Knox took issue with the sentencing of Michelle Carter, another woman whose conviction has been on headlines plastered on national news sites. Carter is the Massachusetts woman who was sentenced to 2.5 years in jail on involuntary manslaughter charges for encouraging her boyfriend, Conrad Roy III, to commit suicide. **metro.us**

PENCE DENIES EYEING 2020 PRESIDENTIAL BID

Vice President Mike Pence on Sunday denied that he is preparing for a presidential election run in 2020, saying the suggestion is "disgraceful and offensive." Pence was responding to a New York Times report that some Republicans were moving to form a "shadow campaign" as though President Donald Trump were not involved. It said multiple advisers to Pence "have already

intimated to party donors that he would plan to run if Mr. Trump did not." The report said Pence had not only kept a full political calendar but also had created his own independent power base, including a political fund-raising group called the "Great America Committee."

SHKRELI SENTENCE TURNS ON ANTICS

Former drug company executive Martin Shkreli could spend years in prison for Friday's investor fraud conviction if the judge focuses on the intended impact of his crime and his "Pharma Bro" social media antics, according to legal experts. Shkreli, widely criticized after he acquired rights to an infection treatment and then raised prices 5,000 percent in 2015, hopes to avoid prison because of an un-

usual twist to his case: defrauded investors suffered no loss from his crime. That could favor Shkreli, because investor harm is the main factor in determining a sentence for securities fraud. However, a law enforcement source said prosecutors will challenge Shkreli's underlying assumption of how to calculate the investor losses.

INTERNATIONAL ARMY GAMES

Machine guns prepared for the Safe Route contest, as part of the 2017 International Army Games held by Russia's Defense Ministry, at the firing range of the Tyumen Higher Military Engineering Command School.

GETTY IMAGES

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

CABLE FIRMS EMBRACE FORMER FOE NETFLIX

A growing number of U.S. cable operators are forming alliances with Netflix Inc NFLX.O, a shift that is helping the streaming pioneer add customers as its largest single market matures. No. 3 distributor Charter Communications Inc CHTR.O is expected to make Netflix available through its set-top boxes, joining more than a dozen top U.S. pay television operators adopting a model first rolled out in Europe. Some U.S. providers could start selling the streaming service as part of their Internet and video packages. Altice NV ATCA.AS is trying that approach in France, and the company aims to extend the deal to the United States, two sources with knowledge of the matter said during the past three weeks. They requested anonymity because the discussions are private.

TOXIC WASTE FROM POT FARMS ALARMS EXPERTS

Pollution from illegal marijuana farms deep in California's national forests is far worse than previously thought, and has turned thousands of acres into waste dumps so toxic that simply touching plants has landed law enforcement officers in the hospital. The volume of banned or restricted pesticides and illegally applied fertilizers in the woods dwarfs estimates by the U.S. Forest Service in 2014, when a top enforcement official testified that the pollution was threatening forest land in California and other states. California accounts for more than 90 percent of illegal U.S. marijuana farming, with much of it exported to other states from thousands of sites hidden deep inside forested federal land, and more on private property, law enforcement officials said. Growers use fertilizers and pesticides long restricted or banned in the United States.

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Look for further articles on these, and other types of malpractice.

Now You Know!

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How Metro's column is 'Fixing Philly'

A look back at the first three months of Metro's newest column.

HAYDEN MITMAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

With the start of August, before we launch into a new month of weekly "Fixing Philly" columns, Metro thought it might be a good time to look back at the work we've done with our newest weekly column dedicated to looking at common problems that all Philadelphians face, and the efforts that are being done to improve life in the City of Brotherly Love.

The column, written by the indefatigable Hayden Mitman (yours truly), launched in May with a look at how City Council was working to combat illegal towing, the scourge of so many in the city who need a place to put their car.

But, in the past three months, the column has uncovered a wide variety of ongoing efforts in the hopes of making Philadelphia a better place to live.

In June, "Fixing Philly' looked at a unique, homegrown effort to combat gun violence in the city. Michael Vidro, director of Public Safety Technology for the Philadelphia Police Department Intelligence Bureau, has developed an aural gunshot location device, that cost a fraction of similar "gunshot detection devices."

In 2016 alone, Vidro's devices are credited with saving the lives of, at least, four gunshot victims by helping police get to the scene much faster.

"It's my specialized box that I built," Vidro said. "We own the design. We have all the engineering documentation, and it is our intellectual property."

Claims of racism in the city's unions is an issue that, some say, has gone on for years. In July, "Fixing Philly" took a look at three new programs that hope to help address that concern, while also reaching out to some non-union, minority trade workers to share their thoughts on the effort.

"It's like a glass wall, because you can only go so high and it's really hard to get in," Real estate developer and retired Philadelphia Police Sgt. Jihad Ali said of the hurdles minorities face in getting union jobs.

Then, in a pair of columns, "Fixing Philly" detailed the city's efforts to improve its greenspace and get Philadelphia's urban youth to enjoy the outdoors. A June column asked about the status of the city's Rebuild initiative that is expected to bring $500 million worth of improvements to Philadelphia's parks and rec. centers over the next seven years.

In July, "Fixing Philly" looked at #naturephl and Camp Philly, a pair of programs that are intended to help get Philly's kids active and interested in the outdoors. Thanks to modern digital entertainment, Kathryn Ott Lovell, commissioner of the city's Parks and Recreation Department, told the Metro then that urban children can become set in play activities that keep them from being just as active and healthy as they could be.

"Kids today don't know how to play. Play has become so structured," she said then. "It's not great, but it's the truth." In just three months, the column has looked at a variety of modern attempts to solve ongoing issues, like a digital response intended to curb panhandling, SEPTA's updates to real-time train date and, most recently, a look at how Philadelphia is planning to care for heroin users seeking treatment as an month-long cleanup of, what might be the city's largest heroin hideaway — El Campamento.

Now, as we enter our fourth month of the column, we want reader input on the issues that bother you most as a Philadelphian. What would you like to see covered in an upcoming column?

Or, do you know a person or program that is addressing an ongoing issue in the city that you'd like us to shine a light on?

Shoot an email to letters@metro.us or contact writer Hayden Mitman directly at Hayden.Mitman@gmail.com, and let us know.

Philadelphia City Hall at night. GETTY IMAGES

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Clash of swords draws would-be knights to theatrical combat class in Philadelphia

Learn the art of combat the way actors do it at the Philadelphia Stage Combat workshop.

CASSIE HEPLER
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Have you ever wanted to be a swashbuckler like Captain Jack Sparrow or Elizabeth Swann from the "Pirates of the Caribbean"? Even though Johnny Depp got his swagger from Keith Richards, someone had to teach Depp stage combat, right? Well, Philadelphia Stage Combat class can to teach you the swordsmanship that make celebrities look like heroes.

With a slew of the best teachers in the area and growing popularity, the once-a-year workshop, which focuses on teaching historically accurate styles of combat, is growing more popular each year, with some teachers and attendees even participating now in weekly classes.

"Once I had a sword in my hand, my arm was finally complete," said Ian Rose, one of the main fight directors and professor of stage combat for Philadelphia Stage Combat Workshop. "I have always loved the swashbuckling films, especially "Robin Hood," Captain Blood," "Zorro," "The Black Pirate," "Prisoner of Zenda," etc. I didn't realize there was a career in it until I was in college. I was at the time already enrolled in fencing and enjoying that, but then I just got lucky, and the very first workshop of the Society of American Fight Directors happened at my school. It was something I just had to do."

The Philadelphia Stage Combat Workshop was created in 1999 by Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) pros John Bellomo and Charles Conwell. The Philadelphia Stage Combat Workshop, known as the "Cheesesteak," is an official SAFD-sanctioned regional workshop that has been held annually since 1999.

"It is real fighting styles, not fake for stage ... [but] with real violence, the idea is to harm," Rose said. "Stage violence is to simulate actual violence whilst being entirely safe. We do all that we can to prevent injury, but this isn't an exact science. We have a pretty good track record with safety, I would say better than most."

Jacqueline (Jax) Holloway, 34, is a fight choreographer, actor and stunt performer who is a certified teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors and Fight Directors Canada after training under Rose for seven years. She runs her own fight school in Philadelphia called Arte Violenta and is the main coordinator for the workshop this year.

"Stage combat is the illusion of violence," said Holloway, who runs weekly summer drop-in classes at Clark Park and an all-female fight group called Galhalla. "It is a storytelling tool used to enhance the performance and keep audience and performers physically and emotionally safe at all times."

With the theme of safety in tact, Roses urges all ages to come.

"All kinds come. Mostly actors, but not entirely. It's for anyone who has a spirit of adventure and a love of swashbuckling," he said.

All weapons are provided for classes and of course you can BYOW, as long as they meet the safety requirements and pass inspection.

"Where else can you get stabbed through the eye and do a gruesome death where people applaud?" asked former attendee A.J. Gagliardi.

The "Cheesesteak" workshop will take place from Oct. 6 to 8, 2017, at the Gershman YMCA, on the University of the Arts campus. Contact philascw @gmail.com for more info.

Philadelphians practicing their swordsmanship. COURTESY OF PHILADELPHIA STAGE COMBAT

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HOW REPUBLICANS ARE DRIPPING AWAY

TOM FOREMAN

Analysis

CNN's Tom Foreman is the author of the book "My Year of Running Dangerously."

Forget the tornado of unsettling tweets. Forget the thunderclaps of unproven claims. Forget the hurricane of accusations about Russia. The single biggest threat to the White House — to the presidency of Donald Trump — is now coming in the form of a slow leak. Congressional Republicans are drip, drip, dripping away.

Let's start with what you can measure. One of the biggest goals of candidate Trump was repealing and replacing Obamacare. He called the program disastrous so many times Democrats wailed on election night, knowing it was doomed. He said he'd start taking it apart on day one. But repeated attempts by the president's team to make it happen have fallen short. Even his direct calls to senators could not rally enough votes.

Then to add insult, Congress shoved a veto-proof package of Russian sanctions his way, which he expressly did not want. And as he raged against his own attorney general, Jeff Sessions, some of the AG's old Congressional allies came to his defense, suggesting the president would dismiss Sessions only at his peril.

Beyond that, in general terms, they are speaking up about what some clearly see as a problematic presidency. Sen. Jeff Flake from Arizona came out this week pushing his new book in unsparing terms: suggesting the Republican Party is abandoning its very principles in a misguided effort to make the Trump agenda work.

This is risky stuff, to be sure. Despite his terrible overall approval rating, Donald Trump is still running strong with parts of the conservative base, which could decide to hammer the GOPers who are stepping out of line. But some lawmakers clearly believe the bigger threat lies in going along with policies they find questionable, pushed by a president they find baffling.

Maybe the Russia investigation will turn into a nightmare for Team Trump. Maybe some other calamity will upend this presidency. But if the president wants to know where the real danger lies, he might pause and listen for that drip, drip, drip. It is real, it is right now, and it could bring the roof down.

President Donald Trump walks to Marine One before departing from the White House on Friday in Washington, D.C. Trump is traveling to Bedminster, New Jersey, for his summer break. GETTY IMAGES

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Where would we be without leaks?

We'd be in the dark, that's where. We'd be getting our news, such as it is, from Sean Spicer, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Mike Dubke and the potty-mouthed Anthony Scaramucci. And, look, three of those four official mouthpieces (90 days, 88 days, 10 days) are already gone. Only Sanders (12 days and counting as press secretary) remains — for now.

Everything we know about the Trump White House, we know because somebody leaked.

If it weren't for leaks, Donald Trump Jr. would never have admitted meeting with Russian dirt-slingers at Trump Tower. If it weren't for leaks, Putin patsy Michael Flynn would never have been fired as national security adviser. If it weren't for leaks, we would never have known that President Trump pressured FBI chief James Comey to back off. If it weren't for leaks, we would never have known just how unhinged Trump was on the phone with the presidents of Australia and Mexico. Not one of those leaks revealed classified information. All of them told Americans things we desperately needed to know.

Since Inauguration Day, only one leak seems to have had a real impact on national security. That's when President Trump revealed secret ISIS intel to Russians in the Oval Office, information our spies collected from Israel. Not good. Other than that, it's been good leaks 99, bad leaks 0.

Now, Jeff Sessions, the attorney general Trump regretted appointing, has launched a crackdown on leaks. He will soon enough discover that the White House leaks so much because the staff is divided into so many factions. Each one is trying to undermine the others with leaks.

I'm not saying who's been leaking to me. I will never say. I will go only this far: The lines have been constantly buzzing, and may the beautiful buzzing never cease.

I breathed a sigh of relief when I heard Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein on Fox News Sunday. "We're after the leaker, not the journalist," said Rosenstein, who is supervising Robert Mueller's Russian-hacking probe since Sessions recused himself.

But I have a suggestion for Sessions and Rosenstein.

Leaks have continued to bedevil the Trump administration. GETTY IMAGES

If you guys really want to arrest dangerous leakers, why not start with the proven reckless one, the loose-lipped blabbermouth in the West Wing, 1600 Pennsylvania's leaker-in-chief?

Metro columnist Ellis Henican is a veteran journalist, best-selling author and frequent commentator on CNN and other TV networks. Follow him on Twitter @henican.

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Chicago to sue Trump administration over sanctuary city funding

Attorney General Sessions announced that certain cities would be barred from a federal grant program.

Chicago will sue the Trump administration on Monday over threats to withhold public safety grant money from so-called sanctuary cities, escalating a push-back against a federal immigration crackdown, Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced on Sunday.

"Chicago will not let our police officers become political pawns in a debate," Emanuel, a Democrat, said at a news conference. "Chicago will not let our residents have their fundamental rights isolated and violated. And Chicago will never relinquish our status as a welcoming city."

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants provide money to hundreds of cities, and the Trump administration has requested $380 million in funding next year. Chicago, a regular target of President Donald Trump because of its murder rate, expected to receive $3.2 million this year for purchasing equipment.

Emanuel said the lawsuit would prevent the Trump administration from setting a precedent that could be used to target other funding.

Under Trump and Attorney General Jeff Sessions, the federal government has sought to crack down on sanctuary cities, which generally offer illegal immigrants safe harbor by declining to use municipal resources to enforce federal immigration laws.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel GETTY IMAGES

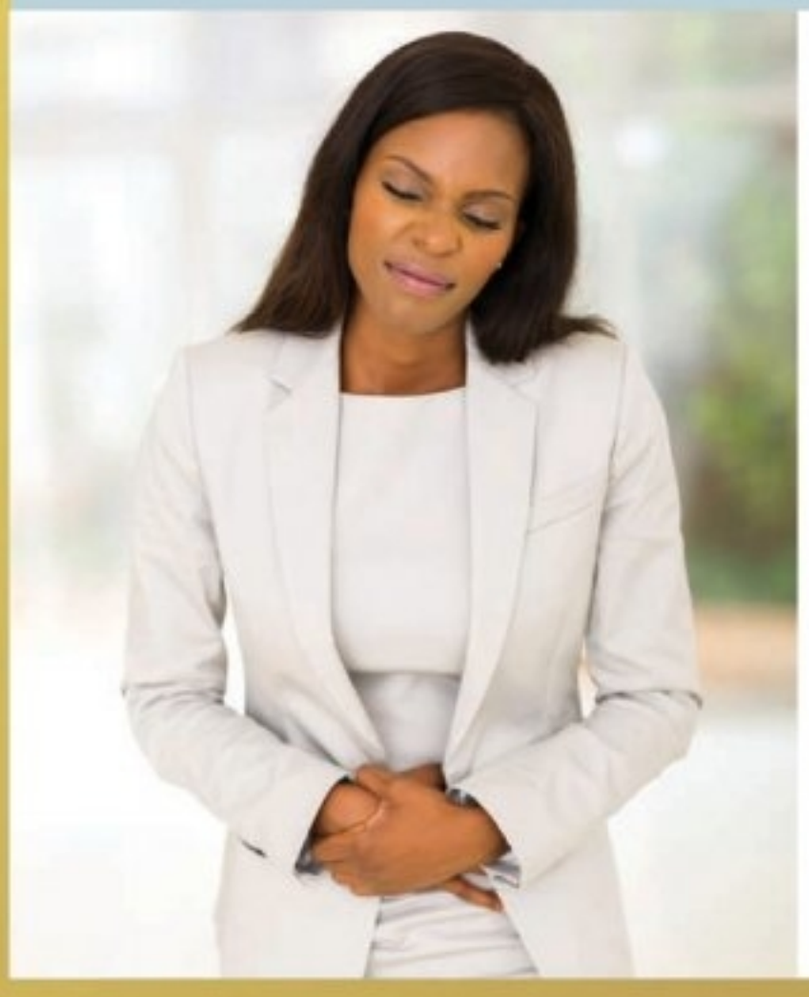
Dozens of local governments and cities, including New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, have joined the growing sanctuary movement.

The Justice Department said more Chicagoans were murdered last year than residents of Los Angeles and New York combined.

Officials in sanctuary cities have said deporting illegal immigrants who are not accused of crimes harms public safety by discouraging immigrants from coming forward to report crimes. REUTERS

Are you suffering from Heavy Menstrual Bleeding due to

Uterine Fibroids?



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The Clinical Trial Center of Philadelphia is currently screening patients for a uterine fibroid research trial.
If you are a premenopausal woman aged 18 or above and you suffer from heavy menstrual bleeding associated with uterine fibroids, you may qualify to participate in this trial.

Participants with uterine fibroids who qualify, will receive investigational study medication and study-related tests at no cost. Participants may also receive compensation for their time and travel.

Study participation is voluntary.

For more information please contact Eileen at 484-380-4861 or eileen.davies@ctcphiladelphia.com

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Minn. governor calls mosque bombing 'act of terrorism'

Minnesota's governor called the bombing of a mosque outside Minneapolis the previous day "an act of terrorism" during a visit to the site on Sunday.

Police in Bloomington, Minnesota, were called on Saturday at 5:05 a.m. local time about an explosion at the Dar Al Farooq mosque, after a bomb was thrown through the window of the imam's office while worshipers were gathered for morning prayers. No one was injured.

Governor Mark Dayton, along with a delegation of public officials, visited the mosque on Sunday morning. He called on the community to unite against such attacks.

"What a terrible, dastardly, cowardly act was committed," he said.

"It is a criminal act of terrorism," added Dayton, who also described it as a hate crime that was "unthinkable, unforgivable."

> *"What a terrible, dastardly, cowardly act was committed."*
>
> Governor Mark Dayton

Federal Bureau of Investigation officials in Minneapolis are investigating the incident and declined to provide further details on Sunday.

Mohamed Omar, the mosque's executive director, previously said a member of the congregation saw a pickup truck speeding away from the building's parking lot just after the blast.

Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton GETTY IMAGES

Omar told the Star Tribune on Sunday the perpetrator may have known which window was the imam's, who missed the blast by only a few minutes.

Anti-Muslim incidents have risen sharply in the United States over the past year, according to a review by the Council on American-Islamic Relations, which offered a $10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the Minneapolis-area bomber. REUTERS

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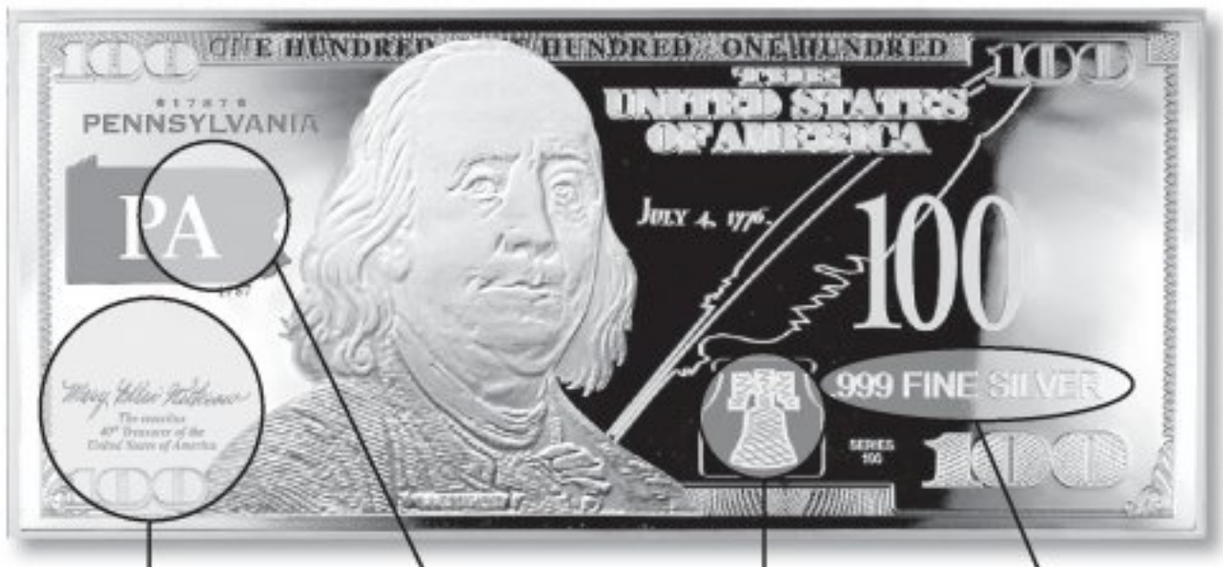

New Pennsylvania State Silver 100's to go quick

Pennsylvanians get 48 hours to snap them up at just state minimum

Pennsylvania – The phone lines are ringing off the hook.

"It's like a modern day 'Gold Rush'," said Mary Ellen Withrow, the emeritus 40th Treasurer of the United States of America.

"Everyone wants to get their hands on the first and only Pennsylvania State Silver 100's now being handed over to Pennsylvania residents at just the state minimum set by the private Federated Mint before they're all gone," Withrow said.

"But don't bother calling local banks and credit unions because they can't even get their hands on these never before seen Pennsylvania State Silver 100's," Withrow said.

That's because these valuable, proof finish Pennsylvania State Silver 100's are not being released and minted by the U.S. Gov't. That's right; they're being released directly to the first 17,544 Pennsylvania residents who beat the 48 hour order deadline exclusively from the vaults of the private Federated Mint.

"But you better hurry because these full one ounce Pennsylvania State Silver 100's are struck in high relief .999 solid silver proof finish and will always be a valuable precious metal which is why everyone is snapping up as many as they can before they're all gone," Withrow said.

"As Executive Advisor to the Federated Mint I get paid to deliver breaking news. So if you're a resident of the state of Pennsylvania you better call 1-866-637-3509 Ext. FMP211 right away because only the first 17,544 callers are guaranteed to get these valuable Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just the $99 state minimum set by the Federated Mint," Withrow said.

"Here's my advice. Don't wait to call. Pick up the phone right now and get as many of the new Pennsylvania State Silver 100's as you can before they're all gone," said Withrow. ■

New Pennsylvania State Silver 100's handed over to state residents

Pennsylvania residents who find their zip code listed at right and are among the first 17,544 callers who beat the 48 hour order deadline are guaranteed to get the first and only Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just the state minimum set for Pennsylvania residents

NON-STATE RESIDENTS **Residents living outside the state of Pennsylvania must pay double the state minimum for the Pennsylvania State Silver 100's**

Pennsylvania – The vaults at the Federated Mint are nearly empty.

"We can barely keep up with all the orders," said Mary Ellen Withrow, the emeritus 40th Treasurer of the United States of America.

That's because the first and only Pennsylvania State Silver 100's in existence are actually being handed over at just the state minimum set by the private Federated Mint to the first 17,544 Pennsylvania residents who find the first two digits of their zip code printed in today's publication.

The only thing residents need to do is call the Toll Free Hotlines before the 48 hour order deadline ends.

Everyone who does is getting individual Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just the state minimum of $99 set by the Federated Mint. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Stacks (pictured in the bottom right hand corner of today's newspaper) each loaded with three Pennsylvania State Silver 100's before they're all gone.

And here's the best part. Pennsylvania residents lucky enough to be among the first callers to claim the entire 50 State Silver 100's Collection™, pictured bottom left, are also getting 20 State Silver 100's absolutely free.

"I'm advising everyone in

(Continued on next page)

■ **PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS GET 20 STATE SILVER 100'S FREE:** Pictured above is the never before seen entire 50 State Silver 100's Collection™ shown off by officials from the Federated Mint that everyone is trying to get. Lucky Pennsylvania residents who are among the first 17,544 callers who beat the 48 hour order deadline to claim the 50 State Silver 100's Collection are actually getting 20 State Silver 100's absolutely free, the custom made State Treasury Display Chest is $285, but it's absolutely free for Pennsylvania residents plus free shipping and free handling too. That means Pennsylvania residents cover just the $99 state minimum set by the Federated Mint for the remaining 30 State Silver 100's which is a real steal because it's saving every Pennsylvania resident over two thousand dollars today.

(Continued from previous page)

Pennsylvania who finds their zip code on today's Distribution List to get to their phones right now because the new Pennsylvania State Silver 100's are only being released to the first 17,544 callers," Withrow said.

Remember, this is not legal tender paper money issued by the U.S. Gov't. These historic Pennsylvania State Silver 100's are a magnificent adaptation of the United States Treasury's one hundred dollar Federal Reserve Note. They are the first and only Pennsylvania State Silver 100's struck in high relief .999 solid silver proof finishes released exclusively from the vaults of the private Federated Mint.

Just imagine how thrilled your children and grandchildren will be when you give them one of these impressive collections for their birthday, Christmas or any special occasion. Just be absolutely sure to keep the new .999 solid silver one ounce Pennsylvania State Silver 100's and numbered certificates of authenticity inside the protective Vault Cases.

These stunning Vault Cases are custom made to hold, secure and protect both the Pennsylvania State Silver 100's and the numbered certificates of authenticity in a heavy-duty transparent Vault Case that allows the valuable Pennsylvania State Silver 100's to be viewed without ever being touched by human hands, thus preserving their valuable collector condition.

"We're bracing for all the calls and doing everything we can to make sure no one gets left out. So if lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered," said Withrow. ■

PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS CALL: 1-866-637-3509 and use **EXT. FMP211** if you find the first two digits of your zip code listed on the Distribution List below

AK 99	**CO** 80, 81	**GA** 30, 31, 39	**IN** 46, 47	**LA** 70, 71	**MN** 55, 56	**ND** 58	**NM** 87, 88	**OH** 41, 43, 44, 45	**PA** 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	**SD** 57	**VA** 20, 22, 23, 24
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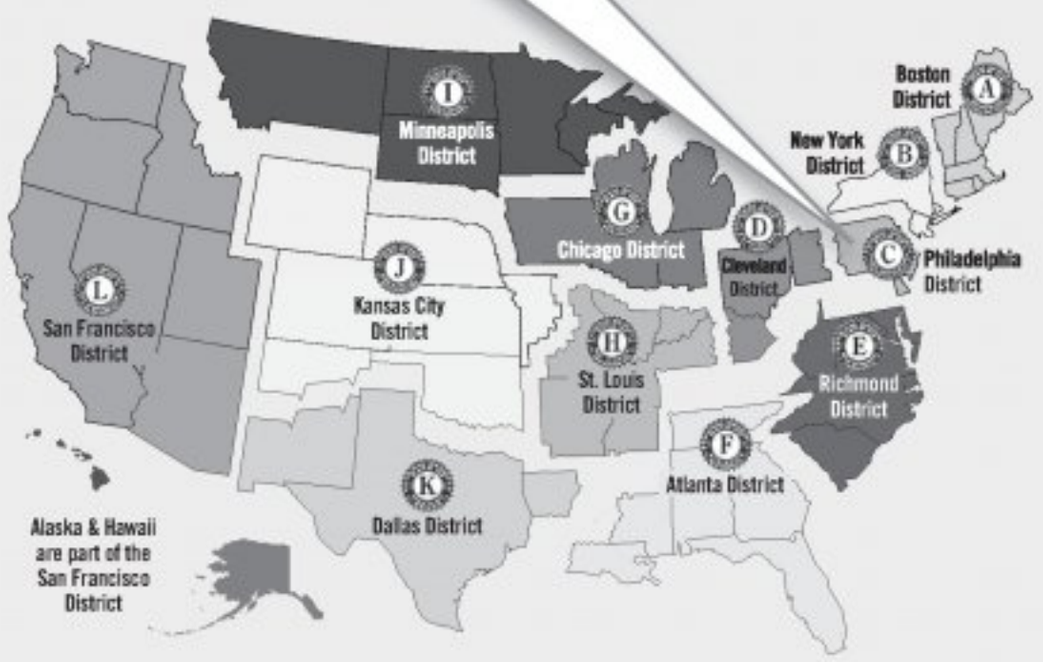
AR 71, 72	**DE** 19	**ID** 83	**KY** 40, 41, 42	**ME** 03, 04	**MS** 38, 39	**NH** 03	**NY** 00, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	**OR** 97	**SC** 29	**TX** 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 88	**WI** 53, 54
AZ 85, 86	**FL** 32, 33, 34	**IL** 60, 61, 62		**MI** 48, 49	**MT** 59	**NJ** 07, 08				**UT** 84	**WY** 82, 83

The Toll Free Hotlines open at precisely 8:30am this morning for Pennsylvania residents only. If lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered. If you miss the deadline you'll be turned away from this offer and forced to wait for future announcements in this publication or others, if any.



The first 17,544 Pennsylvania residents who find the first two digits of their zip code on today's Distribution List above and call before the 48 hour deadline ends are authorized to get individual Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just the state minimum of $99 set by the Federated Mint. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Stacks each loaded with three Pennsylvania State Silver 100's before they're all gone. And here's the best part. Every Pennsylvania resident who gets at least two Vault Stacks is also getting free shipping and free handling too. That's a real steal because non-state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each Vault Stack. All U.S. residents living outside of the state of Pennsylvania must pay one hundred ninety-eight dollars for the Pennsylvania State Silver 100's.

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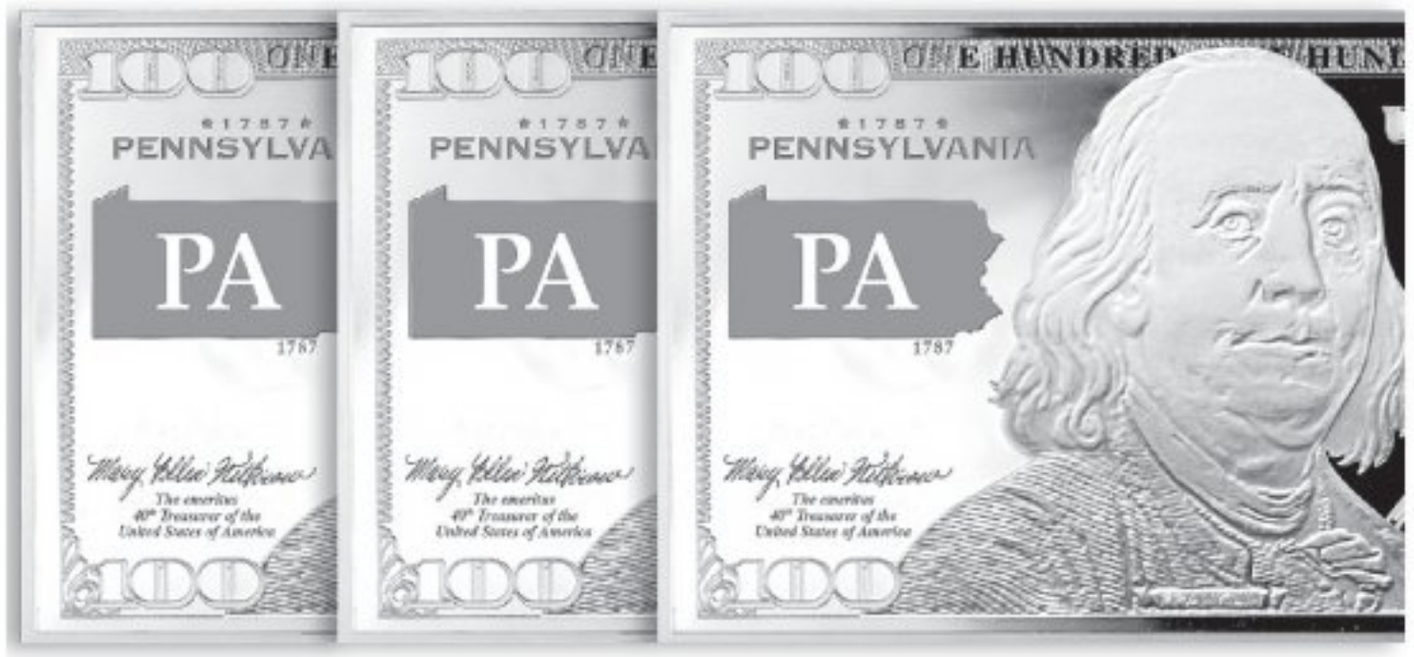


■ **WHAT EVERYONE WANTS:** Pictured left reveals for the very first time the valuable Pennsylvania State Silver 100's struck in high relief .999 pure fine silver loaded inside each Vault Stack. Pictured right are the Vault Stacks containing three of the only Pennsylvania State Silver 100's known to exist. Residents who find their zip code listed above are authorized to get individual Pennsylvania State Silver 100's at just $99 state resident minimum set by the Federated Mint. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Stacks each loaded with three Pennsylvania State Silver 100's before they're all gone. And here's the best part. Every Pennsylvania resident who gets at least two Vault Stacks is also getting free shipping and free handling too. That's a real steal because all non-state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each Vault Stack.

Serena Williams' cute baby shower

This is the cutest.

Serena Williams had a cute lil' 1950s-themed baby shower, and everyone was there! I mean, you weren't there. I wasn't there. But the likes of Ciara (local woman who went tobogganing with her infant) and Lala Anthony (who looks so good, even her estranged husband can't deal with it) were there. Oh, and Eva Longoria, Kelly Rowland and, of course, Venus Williams. Celebrities truly have the most random friendships.

Williams and her fiance, Reddit founder Alexis Ohanian, are expecting some time in the fall. Though they've yet to find out the sex of the baby, they're leaning toward the lady sort. "She won the Australian Open while pregnant," Ohanian explained to "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" "She remarked that she feels it has to be a girl because everything that little baby went through and handled like a champ … only a woman could be strong enough to take on." True!

So yeah, these two are still in the running for being my new favorite couple. I mean, honestly, they deserve it.

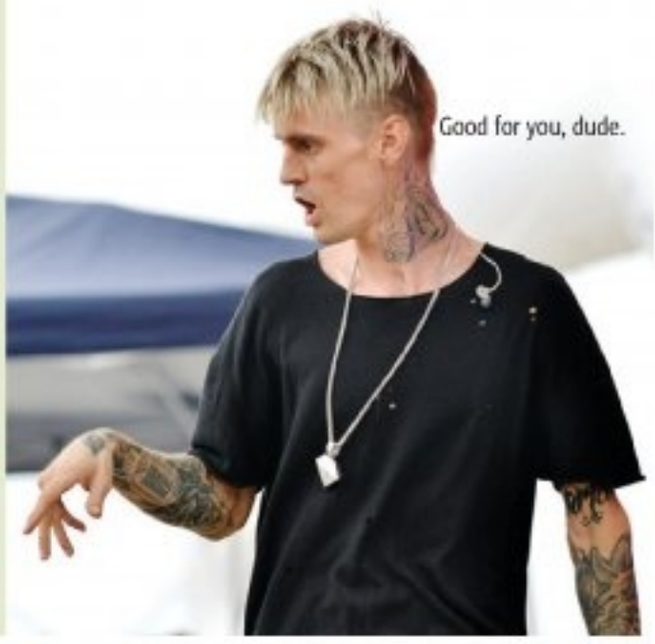
Aaron Carter comes out

Over the weekend, Aaron Carter took to Twitter to share that he's attracted to both men and women. His poison? A very long screenshot from his Notes app, which I, on principle, hate.

"There's something I'd like to say that I feel is important for myself and my identity that has been weighing on my chest for nearly half of my life," he started.

"I grew up in this entertainment industry at a very young age, and when I was around 13 years old, I started to find boys and girls attractive. There were years that went by that I thought about it, but it wasn't until I was 17 years old, after a few relationships with girls, I had an experience with a male that I had an attraction to, who I also worked with and grew up with."

Bravo to Carter for feeling like he could finally come out as bisexual. Even if it is for the attention — it's still mad brave, yo.


Good for you, dude.

the word

RACHAEL VAUGHAN CLEMMONS
@rachaelclemz
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

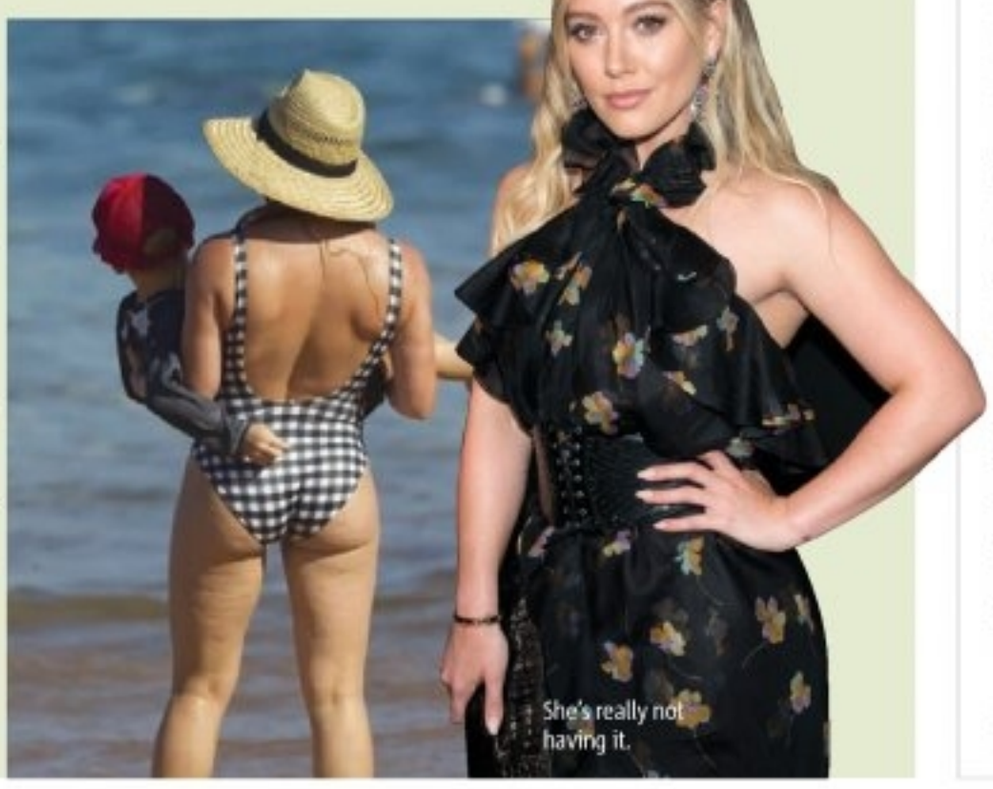
Hilary Duff slams body shamers, or whatever

Someone has been bullying Hilary Duff or something. Because she's taken to her Instagram to shut down body shamers, but it's like, who even is saying anything about her anyway?

"I am posting this on behalf of young girls, women and mothers of all ages," she started. "I'm enjoying a vacation with my son after a long season of shooting and being away from him for weeks at a time over those months. Since websites and magazines love to share 'celeb flaws' — well I have them! My body has given me the greatest gift of my life: Luca, 5 years ago. I'm turning 30 in September, and my body is healthy and gets me where I need to go," she wrote.

Anyway, body-shaming is always bad, and my opinion is pretty unimportant. That being said, A) Duff looks great, and B) people who spend their free time scrambling for ways to shame celebrities' bodies or lifestyles are lame.

Unless they're into the Paleo diet. That is just one thing I can't forgive.


She's really not having it.

Blac Chyna wants to be a rapper now

Blac Chyna would like to be a rapper now, in the vein of Nicki Minaj. Because, of course! TMZ reports that being in music videos with Minaj is no longer enough for Chyna. And "several record labels" are just clamoring to make it happen. Apparently, she's already in the studio recording what TMZ calls "poetry music," among other things. For those of you wondering what a "poetry music is," same.

Chyna was part of a Yo Gotti music video shoot in Miami with Minaj a couple of weeks ago and that was enough to fuel this extremely unnecessary fire.

A source tells the site that the woman formerly engaged, or something, to Rob Kardashian has lined up several meetings with record labels in Los Angeles, and she's already met with some people at Capitol Records. Neat-o!

This is certainly just another one of those things that we don't need. But unfortunately, it looks like Chyna is going to just be the unwanted gift that keeps giving.

Girl, I guess.

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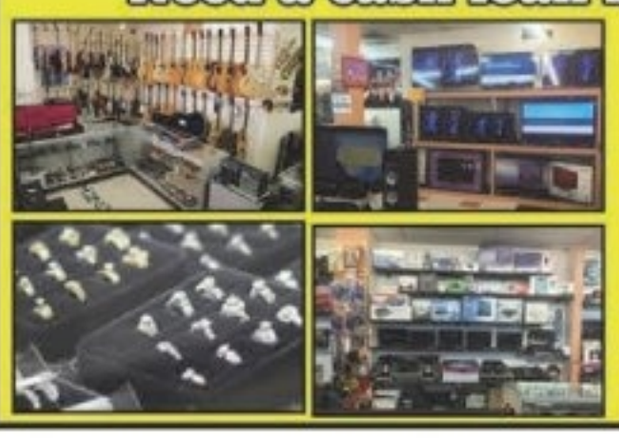

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5 Climate-change docs to see after 'An Inconvenient Sequel'

Al Gore is back, reminding us not to destroy the world. But these films may be better than his latest.

MATT PRIGGE
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matt.prigge@metro.us

Al Gore returns to screens to fight climate change once more in "An Inconvenient Sequel."
PARAMOUNT PICTURES

'Chasing Ice' and 'Chasing Coral'

The slow, steady, hopefully not inevitable erosion of the planet may be terrifying, but it's not particularly cinematic. Any filmmaker hoping to make a movie about climate change has to ask himself: How do I show this? Director Jeff Orlowski has now made two films showing global warming as it happens, both with the word "Chasing" in the title. In 2012's "Chasing Ice," he uses cutting-edge cameras to show the melting of glaciers in action. If that's not enough to scare the bejesus out of you, he returned with "Chasing Coral," in which other eggheads place cameras under the sea, inside the Great Barrier Reef. They were there to bear witness to "coral bleaching," in which climate change robs corals of their color and their life. *Both now stream on Netflix*

'Time to Choose'

"Chasing Ice" and "Chasing Coral" use images to show the proof of climate change; "Time to Choose" goes one step further. It's the most beautifully photographed film on the subject — a hypnotic, film-length montage reminiscent of movies like "Koyaanisqatsi." That said, it's still heavy on intel. It's from filmmaker Charles Ferguson, whose docs ("No End in Sight," "Inside Job") are exhaustively researched, very much documentaries as journalism. Here, he thinks as much about image as content. That's not all: "Time to Choose" is one of the few optimistic films in the genre. It begins with the usual doomsday prophecies before heading into a topic-by-topic breakdown of what we can do to avert the apocalypse. *Available on Amazon Video (for a fee)*

'Merchants of Doubt'

Technically this isn't a doc about global warming. It's about hucksters, con artists, bullies. The ones it shows just happen to be the grifters swindling the public into believing climate change isn't legit. It delves into the history of lying on a global scale, comparing the climate change denial wave to the monsters who once claimed cigarettes weren't harmful to their health. "Merchants" winds up getting at something deeper about deception: Its villains thrill at being contrarians, at believing that they're the smartest people in the room. They just do that by taking a position that everyone knows for a fact is wrong. *Available on Amazon Video (for a fee)*

'Before the Flood'

We get it: Listening to brainiacs can make your eyes roll over. Maybe you want your blood-freezing data delivered by a hot celebrity. Failing that, maybe you want said hot celebrity to stand next to brainiacs, nodding as they vomit up factoids. Witness Leonardo DiCaprio, in his second climate-change doc, do just that in this Hail May pass of a doc, which tries to get people who loved "The Revenant" to care about the destruction that's only started to hit the planet in earnest. It's not much of a climate-change doc, but it's still superior to "An Inconvenient Sequel." Which you should still see. Because this stuff is important. *Available on Amazon Video (for a fee)*

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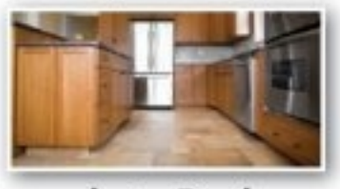

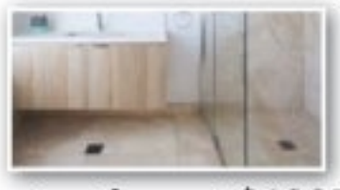

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Comedy shows you can't

Cole Escola comes to Good Good comedy this month.

Jim florentine comes to Punch Line Philly.

Gina Yashere is a super popular comedian in great britain.

Gina Yashere, Cole Escola, Jon Lovitz and more come to town.

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If you think "human tanning bedding" (John Oliver's words) Anthony Scaramucci is funny, you'll love this month's lot of comics, stand-up and sketch artists.

Gina Yashere (Aug. 10-Aug. 12, Punch Line Philly)
Americans might not know her beyond correspondent appearances on "The Daily Show," stand-up bits on "Def Comedy Jam" and a Showtime special, "Skinny B&%$h," but in Great Britain, she's huge. After having created several characters for "The Lenny Henry Show" and hopping on the West End stage for "The Vagina Monologues," she became the toast of London comedy for her cuttingly incisive take on relationships, sex and politics. Get to know her.
Thursday, Aug. 10 to Sun, Aug. 12, 7:30, 8, 9:45 and 10:15 p.m., Punch Line Philly, 33 E Laurel St. $22.50- $8.25, punchlinephilly.com

Jon Lovitz (Aug. 10-Aug. 12, Helium)
Beyond being one of the most uniquely funny "Saturday Night Live" sketch alumnus — and an outspoken social critic when it comes to his longtime stand-up routine — Lovitz wins hearts and minds after having played the lead loudmouth, Jay Sherman, in the Fox Network animated comedy classic, "The Critic."
Thursday, Aug. 10 to Saturday, Aug. 12, 7:30, 8 and 10 p.m., Helium Comedy Club, 2031 Sansom St., $25-$38, philadelphia-heliumcomedy.com

Jim Florentine (Aug 17-Aug 19, Punch Line Philly)
It's only apt that WMMR's Preston & Steve present this show with deep voiced caustic comic Florentine as he's been a co-host at VH1 Classic's hit heavy-metal talk

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At 10 am at 7049 Frankford Ave., Phila., PA 19135

#1704 William Brauer, 1506 Delphine Clark, 307 Delphine Clark, 612 Pamela Ewing, 209 Lacoya Gilliams, 501 Lois Nelson, 311 Veronica Sharkey, 1115 Gregory Taylor,1805 Bonita Washington.

At 10 am at 5440 North 6th Street, Phila., PA 19120

1407 Darian Bolipps, 39 Erica Bush, 37 Benjamin Burwell, 907 Annalicia Cooper, 337 John Dell, 3305 Verma Eubanks, 26 Vaughn Gregg, 230 Kristan Henderson , 233 Tyra Jones, 117 Tyrone Lee, 2503 Ruben Long, 130 Pierre Malum, 3212 Alisha Ross, 46 Lee Ruffin, 3407 Gloria Saafir, 21 Sumayah Abdus-Sabur, 1408 Dana Sharp, 809 William Stanley, 3108 Shaniqua Vanleer, 122 Leila Varella, 1506 Stanley Wiggins.

At 10 am at 5026 Ridge Ave., Phila., PA 19128

#677 Margaret Akana, 319 William Arnold, 476 Reba Bush, 236 Naeem Carter, 2203 Elaine Cooperstein, 242 Delia Gorman, 1609 Rhonda Hall, 1411 James Jackson, 527 Iesiah O Patterson, 537 Anita Price, 282 Asia Scott, 218 Victor Strong, 17A Tijuana Tancemore, 2222 Tara G Tschanz 2312 Nicole V Veith.

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miss in August

Love "The Critic?" Jon Lovitz is the voice behind Jay Sherman.

Maria Bamford has a netflix series called "Lady Dynamite."

program "That Metal Show" and opened the American Carnage Tour for the death metal trio of Anthrax, Megadeth, and Slayer. Plus he was a hero of Comedy Central's much missed "Crank Yankers" puppet show. *Thursday, Aug. 17 to Sunday, Aug. 19, 7:30, 8, 9:45 and 10:15 p.m., Punch Line Philly, 33 E. Laurel St. $16.50-$22.50, punchlinephilly.com.*

Maria Bamford (Aug 18, Musikfest Café at Arts-Quest Center)
Bamford is a strange bird. Yes, she's got a stand-up show filled with soft baby-voiced girls and hard-jawed business women. But along with those characters displaying signs of deep dysfunction and self-deprecation, she's got a semi-autobiographical series on Netflix, "Lady Dynamite," that regularly touches upon subjects such as suicide, psychosis and psychiatric conditions. *Friday, Aug. 18 at 8:30 p.m., Musikfest Café at the Arts-Quest Center, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem, $35 - $39, steelstacks.org*

Cole Escola (Aug 19, Good Good Comedy)
Truly one of most adventurous comics, sketch or stand-up, to come along in some time, the wig-wearing comedian is known by TV fans for his work on "Difficult People" and "Mozart in the Jungle." In NYC, he's gone toe-to-toe with Bridget Everett and hosted events such as "Help! I'm Stuck!" where he unleashes some of the weirdest characters. *Sat. Aug. 19 at 8 and 10 p.m., Good Good Comedy, 215 N. 11th St. $10, goodgoodcomedy.com*

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All the sweets you need to eat at Delice et Chocolat

Ardmore has a new French pastry and chocolate shop.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Last week, Delice et Chocolat, a new French pastry and chocolate shop opened in Ardmore at 7 Station Rd. (Right near the train station!)

Brothers Joseph and Antoine Amrani, both from France, are the masterminds behind this endeavor. Both also worked closely with Philly food legend Georges Perrier with Antoine as a head pastry chef at Le Bec Fin and Joseph working on the business side.

"My brother's art inspired my business," says Joseph. "I was always impressed by his talent. He embodies knowledge of chocolate artisan and the artistic touch of sculptured sugar and color. His palette is sophisticated. That's what makes him a good executive pastry chef and exceptional chocolatier and macaron maker."

He adds, "I always worked the business side of high end restaurants. After many years of working for others we decided let's do something for us. With the help of Angela, my wife and my son, Nick, we combined our talents to open Delice et Chocolat."

While the offerings at Delice et Chocolat include plenty of savory options (paninis and quiche) as well as a full coffee bar, they have a huge selection of sweet treats for the sweet tooths in all of us.

Here are five delights that you most definitely need to try.

Get ready to experience macaron paradise.
ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

The Toraja Cake is magical.

Delice et Chocolat's line of Rocher

If you love the gold-wrapped balls of Ferrero Rocher at the grocery store, kick things up a notch with this house-made variety. Coconut, Italian wafer, rice crisps, caramel and chocolate layers combine for a truly decadent chocolate experience. For $12, you can get 4.5 oz.

Chocolate truffles

What could be better than chocolate truffles? Ones that are made of chocolate caramel ganache and rolled in tantalizing dark cocoa powder. These tiny balls of delight are the perfect dessert being soft, simple and sweet.

Macaron

Upon entering Delice et Chocolat, you'll be greeted by a rainbow of macarons in flavors like lemon, lemon lavender, strawberry, and raspberry rose. Eating just one is impossible and lucky for you, they're only $2 each.

Pain au chocolat

Some people call this popular pastry a chocolate croissant, but technically it's called a pain au chocolat. (Croissant means "crescent" in French so chocolate croissant doesn't fit the bill for this rectangular treasure trove of pastry layers and chocolate.)

Whenever I go to a bakery, this is my go-to item and let me say, the pain au chocolate at Delice et Chocolat is divine. Get one to go with a latte and your day is made. Each pain au chocolat costs $2.75.

The Toraja cake

Hold up. Did someone say cake? You can't leave Delice et Chocolat without trying the Toraja cake that features flourless chocolate cake, almond ginger sponge and dark chocolate mousse with a ginger creme brulee center.

For more information, visit deliceetchocolat.com.

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Showing character is crucial. ISTOCK

How to get into an Ivy League college

Straight A's and community service just won't cut it.

SARA FEINSTEIN
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sara.feinstein@metro.us

College application season is approaching, which means thousands of students will soon be fighting for the few coveted seats at the nation's most selective colleges, the eight Ivies.

While many students think scoring an acceptance revolves around boasting the highest GPA, hours of community service and a winding list of extracurricular activities, the truth is, it takes a lot more than that. We spoke with admissions counselor, Danny Ruderman for the recipe to Ivy League success.

Think beyond numbers

When it comes to getting into an Ivy League, "the numbers just aren't enough," says Ruderman. After all, "Admissions officers are going to thumb through 25,000 students with perfect A's and really great test scores."

The last thing they want to see is another applicant with nothing but top-notch grades. What they're more interested in is what you've done to follow your passions outside of the classroom. "They want to see that you pursue certain projects on your own and that you're a go-getter."

So if you like to write screenplays in your spare time, or enjoy coding and creating video games, explain those passion projects, says the expert. Anything you can do to demonstrate that you have an authentic interest in a niche activity will help you stand out from the piles of generic applications touting record-setting GPAs.

Don't be afraid to talk about challenges

A lot of kids think giving off an air of flawlessness will help them get into college.

"They think that their essays are supposed to say, 'I am the perfect student, I have never experienced anything bad and I will rock it if I get into your school,'" explains Ruderman. Except that's not true. In fact, explaining how you overcame a major challenge can be very beneficial. "If you struggled with a learning disability, but you achieved in school anyway, or you had a family tragedy that resulted in your grades dipping during your sophomore year and then you rebounded and became even stronger — tell that story," says the college expert. Admissions officers want to see character, "and nothing reveals character more than conflict."

Go big with supplemental material

The standard college application can only reveal so much. That's why it's important that students jump on any chance they get to submit supplemental material. "But that doesn't mean sending over a video introducing yourself and saying 'I'm awesome,'" explains Ruderman. Admissions officers want to see clear examples of your skills. If you're someone who's obsessed with storytelling, try turning in the first chapter of your working novel, says the expert. You can even send over a video of you performing in a school play if you've got a knack for theater. At the end of the day, he explains, it's all about highlighting your individuality.

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How to survive your first year of medical school

Cramming won't cut it anymore.

SARA FEINSTEIN
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First-year medical students should be partnering up with classmates to learn the material. ISTOCK

If you thought cramming for your organic-chemistry exam during college was rough, then medical school might just break you. Not only is there way more material to absorb, there's also the never-ending lectures, labs, homework and exams.

But that doesn't mean you have to live out the stereotype of the half-asleep, stressed-out medical student.

We spoke with Dr. Linda Tewksbury, the associate dean for student affairs at NYU School of Medicine, to find out how students can ease into the transition and conquer their first year.

Group up

Forming a study group with like-minded classmates is crucial when it comes to getting through medical school, says Tewksbury. "That's really the key — not isolating and locking yourself in your room to study all the time," she says. After all, one of the best ways to understand new material is by working with others. "You might find a friend whose strengths you can complement," she explains. "They might have a study strategy that you never thought of, or they may be able to explain something to you that all of a sudden makes it crystal clear."

Plus, there's the added benefit of having somebody to talk through the material with. And at the end of the day, "that's how you know if you really understand something — if you can explain it to somebody else."

Pace yourself

You might have procrastinated your way through college, but don't try it in medical school, says Tewksbury. For one, there's so much more material being presented on a daily basis. "If you're not doing some work every-day, once you fall behind it gets really difficult to catch up." In other words, students need to make it a point to stay up to date with the lecture material. Even if you're not attending class — lectures are often taped — make sure to go back and review the recordings on a regular basis, says the expert. Exam day might seem far away, but the reality is, "cramming just doesn't work in medical school."

Don't get discouraged

If you don't do so well on the first exam — don't fret. "It really does take a couple of months for students to figure out a good study strategy that works for them," says Tewksbury.

And even when they've mastered their crunch-time habits, there's always a bigger challenge at hand: kicking the college mind-set. These students are used to getting high 90s on all of their exams, "so it's a big shocker for them to not be at the top of the class," she explains. "They have to just keep reminding themselves that that's OK." After all, the goal shouldn't be to earn the title of "brightest in the class," says Tewksbury. "It should really be to learn as much as they can to take care of the patients."

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Eagles defensive coordinator not confident in cornerback situation

Do the Eagles have two starting cornerbacks on the roster? Jim Schwartz isn't so sure.

EVAN MACY
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Rookie cornerback Rasul Douglas had an interception during practice Sunday in front of 36,000 fans at Lincoln Financial Field. GETTY IMAGES

Much has been written this offseason about the Eagles biggest glaring weakness, their cornerback corps.

Ahead of practice at training camp Sunday at Lincoln Financial Field (which drew an incredible 36,000 rowdy fans), Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz answered questions from Philly media members almost exclusively surrounding the team's secondary woes.

"We're really on the corners aren't we?" Schwartz said, seeming annoyed. Annoyed that the Eagles media is grilling him on cornerbacks? Or annoyed that the position is causing so much strife in the media and among fans?

When asked if the team had it's two starers on the roster currently, Schwartz seemed to dance around the question and gave a reply that will not inspire confidence.

"I think that's why we play the preseason games and practice," the coach said.

The team has a combination of unproven youth, in players like Jalen Mills and C.J. Smith and unproven veterans in Patrick Robinson and Ron Brooks. None of the four has particularly stood out.

"Patrick has experience in the NFL and higher expectations for himself," Schwartz said of Robinson as he was asked to comment on pretty much every cornerback in the locker room. Robinson now famously complained of his shortcomings in practice last week, saying he felt he was 25 percent of the way to where he wanted to be.

"It has slowed down for him (Smith) a little bit, as opposed to last year at this time," Schwartz said of Smith, who has made plays in practice but hasn't covered the Birds' talented slew of wide receivers quite well enough to clinch a starting spot.

And then there's Rasul Douglas, the big 6-foot-2 rookie out of West Virginia taken in the third round in April. Is he making a case to play?

"[He's been] inconsistent," Schwartz said. "I am sure he would answer the same way, he's still trying to learn all the nuances of the game and the technique."

"Somewhere along the line for Rasul the game will slow down."

Is the answer to the Eagles cornerback questions on the field right now? Not even Jon Schwartz can answer that.

Matthews calls out NFL Network's Jeremiah

Not more than a day after NFL Network's Daniel Jeremiah, a former Eagles scout, said on his podcast that he expects Nelson Agholor to beat out Jordan Matthews to be the Birds' starting slot wide receiver, Matthews responded.

"People make all kinds of bold predictions," Matthews said. "The craziest thing is, if I make a bold prediction, or say something outlandish, and it's wrong, I get scrutinized. He might do it. ... I mean, his mock drafts are pretty bad, every year. Nobody gets on him. It is what it is. Nobody in any other field can be that wrong that many times and keep their job."

Coming off of two straight years as Philly's leading receiver in almost every category, Matthews was thrown for a loop when the Eagles signed Torrey Smith and Alshon Jeffery during the offseason, bumping Matthews to third on the depth chart.

Agholor was a first-round pick three years ago, but has struggled mightily over his first two seasons and there was much speculation about his demise heading into 2017. But he's had a spectacular camp, and Jeremiah, who is in the know and typically relied on as an expert in the NFL, is buying what Agholor is selling.

"At the receiver position, I think they're in great shape. Nelson Agholor has had a total rebirth," Jeremiah said. "He's in the slot. He's gonna live in the slot. He's gonna be their slot receiver. I'll be shocked if he's not. I don't know what that means for Jordan Matthews."

Matthews has looked healthy in camp after missing spring activities with knee soreness. The competition between the two young receivers can do nothing but help the team's competitiveness and fantasy owners could look to Philly for wide receiver depth during the fantasy season.

It also is good news for quarterback Carson Wentz.

"When you have this many guys out here who are all making plays it motivates you," Matthews said. "And with a quarterback like [Wentz] you don't have to worry to much about being in position, he's going to put it where you can get it."

EVAN MACY

Level-headed Jordan Matthews says he isn't feeling any heat. GETTY IMAGES

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Pivetta proving to be a curious case study for Phillies

Will pitching prospect Nick Pivetta prove to be worth a big league rotation slot?

KYLE PHILLIPPI
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When it's come to the Phillies rebuild, not many things have been as clear as the organization would have liked.

Aaron Altherr and Nick Williams look to be solid big leaguers, the same goes for more established players in Odubel Herrera and Freddy Galvis. In regards to the pitching prospects, it's been anyone's guess as consistency issues have really puzzled the picture.

Yet, no one may be leaving more confusion in the organization than Nick Pivetta.

At this point, Pivetta has had more ups-and-downs than probably any of the Phillies up-and-comers. His start on Saturday, which saw him yanked in the third inning after a five-run first, didn't make things clearer in his regard.

Through 16 starts, the 24-year-old sits at 4-7 with a 5.89 ERA and 1.43 WHIP. None of those numbers are inspiring, but when looking at his start-by-start lines, there's a different takeaway.

His first outing back on April 30 saw him go five innings, scattering two runs on nine hits. It was a solid debut that also netted him five strikeouts to just one walk. His next two starts, though, equated to four earned runs apiece with four homers allowed in those outings.

The trend continued over his next few appearances with his ERA peaking to 5.52 in mid-June. His next two starts, however, were different stories as he went seven scoreless of four-hit ball on June 15, striking out nine along the way. He followed that up with a 10 K performance over six innings.

It's been a frustratingly up-and-down campaign for Pivetta in which he's looked completely dominant at times – evidenced by his alarmingly high strikeout-to-walk ratio in a few of his outings – and other times seeming unprepared, getting beaten early in games.

Nick Pivetta has been woefully inconsistent this season in Philly. GETTY IMAGES

Following his eight-run start against the Rockies, manager Pete Mackanin offered praise, believing he can work past these hiccups because of the potential he possesses, adding that he has "a good arm and stuff."

With about two months to go before the season concludes, it's imperative for Pivetta to start settling in and getting over the speed bumps he's hit thus far. The "stuff" that Mackanin mentioned is definitely there. Listen to any broadcast during a Pivetta start and you'll hear nothing but good comments about his fast ball and off-speed pitches.

It's a matter of location and preparation for Pivetta, but if and when he ever gets that down, there's reason to believe he can be a key arm for this staff moving forward.

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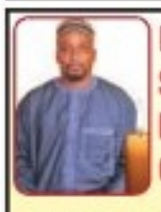
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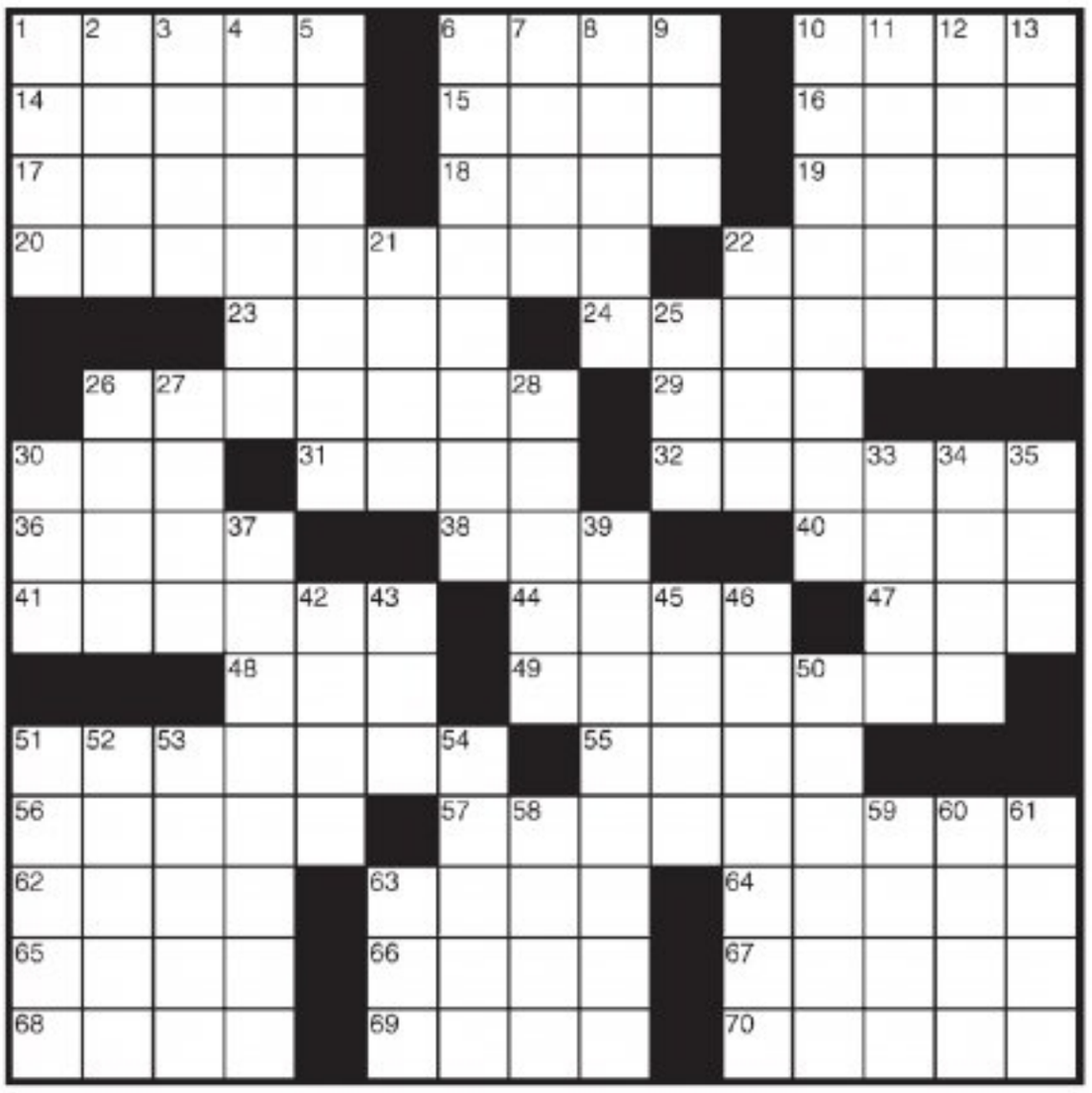

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			8	6				
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hard

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metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Offering your assistance will result in unexpected favors. Pay it forward and make a difference to someone. A business trip or meeting will turn into a learning experience.

Taurus Don't feel you must indulge someone if you don't have the time or means to do so. Feelings of guilt will be due to someone's manipulative tactics. It's OK to say no.

Gemini Let experience be your guide to a better future. Put greater effort into how you run your home and take care of your professional responsibilities. Say little, but do a lot.

Cancer Use your excellent memory and intelligence to get your way. Refuse to get swept up by emotional spending that will lead to stress and disappointment when the bills come in.

Leo Partnerships will encourage personal growth and bring about opportunities that will help you excel. A steady pace will ensure that you reach your destination.

Virgo Put a little muscle behind your ideas and push to get things done. You can make a difference to someone in need of a little nurturing and emotional support.

Libra Participate in events or activities that will help you get ahead. Collaborate with people you feel can bring value to a project or idea you want to pursue.

Scorpio Weigh the pros and cons of any situation you face at work or home before you share your opinion. You are best off not getting into an emotional discussion.

Sagittarius Aim to please and you will get the recognition you deserve. Traveling, attending meetings and mixing business with pleasure will lead to advancement.

Capricorn Be open to self-improvements. Take criticism seriously and do whatever it takes to get ahead. Money matters are best handled with care. Joint ventures are not favored.

Aquarius Negotiate personal and professional contracts to bring about positive changes that will improve your life. Your dedication and contributions will be rewarded.

Pisces If uncertainty prevails when dealing with one of your peers, ask questions. It's better to know where you stand before you make a personal choice. EUGENIA LAST

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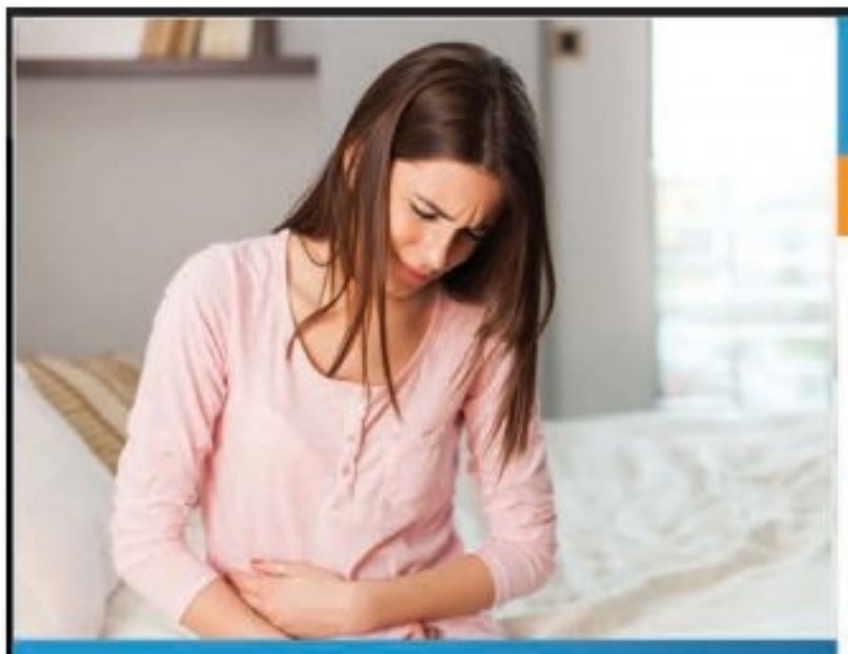

If your life has been affected by the abdominal pain of **Crohn's disease,** please call **Hassman Research Institute** today.

We are recruiting adults to participate in a research study of an investigational medication.

Qualified study participants must:

- Have had Crohn's disease for at least 3 months
- Have chronic moderate to severe abdominal pain

Insurance is not required to participate in our study, and all study-related care and study medication are provided at no charge.

Transportation options and compensation up to $850 for time and travel may be available.

Does **Crohn's disease** have you planning life around your **symptoms?**

For more information, call toll-free

866.230.4185

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HASSMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Are you an adult living with **moderate to severe liver impairment?**

If so, **Hassman Research Institute** is asking you to call today about participating in our research study.

Qualified study participants must:

- Be 18 to 75 years old with severe kidney impairment
- Be available for a 5-night stay in our clinic

There is no charge to participate and insurance is not needed. This study is for research purposes only and not intended to treat or cure any medical condition.

Transportation and compensation up to $1,725 for time and travel may be available.

Call today to see if you qualify.

HASSMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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DEPRESSED?

Are you treating your depression with medication?
Are you still feeling depressed?

If so, please call Hassman Research Institute about participating in our research study of an investigational drug for adults with treatment-resistant depression.

Qualified participants must: • Be 18 or older • Be taking prescribed antidepressant medication • Be currently experiencing a depressive episode

Insurance is not required to participate in our study, and all study-related care and study medications are provided at no charge.

Transportation and compensation up to $7,500 for time and travel may be available.

HASSMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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